

United States  
Department of  
Agriculture



Federal Crop  
Insurance  
Corporation



Risk Management  
Agency



Insurance  
Services

# LARGE CLAIM STANDARDS HANDBOOK

FCIC-Approved Standards and  
Procedures for Handling Large  
Claims and Referrals for  
Insurance Services, Regional  
Offices, and AIPs for the **2017**  
and Succeeding Crop Years.

FCIC-14040  
(12-2016)

## PART 6 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### 45 Dispute Resolution

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#### A General Information

- (1) If there are any disputed or unresolved issues between RMA and the AIP regarding a loss determination during RMA's review or participation in such loss determination, such disputes or unresolved issues:
  - (a) will be elevated to the AIP's National Claims Manager and RMA's RMSD Director.
  - (b) will not, without RMA concurrence, be discussed in the presence of the policyholder or anyone else outside of RMA or the AIP.
- (2) If there is a dispute between RMA and the AIP, with respect to RMA's determination of a loss, the AIP will pay the claim according to RMA's written approval. The AIP retains the right to dispute RMA's actions in accordance with administrative appeals procedures found in 7 CFR § 400.169.
- (3) When RMA elects to participate in the loss determination, or modifies, revises, or corrects a claim during review prior to the AIP reaching an agreement with the policyholder or prior to the AIP making payment to the policyholder on the claim:
  - (a) If the policyholder disputes the claim, the policyholder's dispute on the RMA modification, revision or correction will be with RMA.
    - (i) The policyholder may request administrative review, mediation, or appeal to NAD in accordance with section 20(e) of the BP.
    - (ii) The AIP must provide RMA with cooperation and assistance as needed in any dispute with the policyholder.
    - (iii) The policyholder may not bring arbitration, mediation or litigation action against the AIP in regards to the settlement of the claim.